



A World of Knowledge

**MAIN LIBRARY
CATAWBA COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
115 West C Street
Newton, NC 28658**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 24, 2008

CONTACT: Tammy Wilson, Public Information Officer
828-465-8661 twilson@catawbacountync.gov

Southwest branch manager loves book talk

What could be sweeter than a book lover in a library?

For Glenda Ramsey, it's a match made in heaven.

The Southwest Branch Library manager feels as at home there as she does in Terrell, where she has lived for 30 years. The branch is located on Highway 127 South and serves the Mountain View and Banoak communities.



"Talking about books is what I love most about this job. There are so many good ones out there, so many types of literature," she said. The nine-year veteran of Catawba County Library System started out as a library assistant in Newton and has been promoted with every move.

What many may not know is that she once considered becoming a lawyer. After graduating from West Lincoln High School, she enrolled at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill for a while, but she realized that the legal profession wasn't for her. And then life got in the way.

Many in the community may know her as a facilitator for the BIG Read. She has volunteered to lead book discussions for three years now, and she loves it.

Like her counterparts around the county library system, Ramsey is an avid book advocate. Though she loves mysteries, she's quick to mention one of her all-time favorites, Erik Larsen's *Devil in the White City*, the true-life thriller about a serial murderer during the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. The book is magical, said Ramsey, in the way Larsen weaves two stories—the building of the fairgrounds, the same fair which brought us the Ferris Wheel, Juicy Fruit gum and the Pledge of Allegiance...along with

the murderous, twisted mind of H. H. Holmes, who turned a magical time into a nightmare for victims lured to his nearby World's Fair hotel.

Ramsey's favorite authors include Carol O'Connell and Jodi Picoult, but she also admires the travel humor of Bill Bryson and Markus Zusak's, *The Book Thief*, a children's novel, set in post-war Germany.

Ramsey enjoys her work at the Southwest branch that has served the Mountain View and Banoak communities since 1997. Patrons, ranging in age from preschoolers to retirees, appreciate having a neighborhood library, especially free access to a good supply of fiction books.

"This is a growing area," Ramsey said, but she and her staff know most of the regulars by name. Computer use should increase with the recent introduction of wireless access at the branch.

"Not only can patrons bring in their wireless computers, but folks need to know that we have all-new public access computers at the branch," Ramsey pointed out.

She and husband, David, have one grown son. During her off hours—when she's not reading or talking up books—she enjoys needlepoint projects.



A Service of Catawba County Government